

MEMO

Date: January 6, 2005

To: Transportation and Communications Committee

From: Alan Bowser, Senior Regional Transportation Planner
(213-236-1843) or Bowser@scag.ca.gov

RE: Foothill South Toll Road Alternatives Presentation

SUMMARY

Foothill-South is the proposed southern extension of the 241 Toll Road in Orange County to the I-5 near San Clemente. This proposed route has been subject to planning efforts for more than 20 years by a wide range of local, regional, state, and federal agencies.

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA) were formed in 1986 to plan, finance, construct and operate Orange County's 67-mile public toll road system. Their mission is to enhance mobility in Orange County and Southern California by developing and operating publicly owned toll facilities as a part of the regional transportation system.

Foothill-South is the proposed southern extension of the 241 Toll Road in Orange County to the I-5 near San Clemente. This proposed route has been subject to planning efforts for more than 20 years by a wide range of local, regional, state, and federal agencies. Foothill-South is a general term referring to the toll road extension, although different alignments, or routes of the road, were studied. In addition, three non-toll road alternatives were studied.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) has been prepared to satisfy state and federal environmental laws. The purpose of the Draft EIS/SEIR was to analyze all potential environmental, socio-economic, and traffic impacts of 10 project alternatives under various scenarios for housing development and build out of the Orange County's Master Plan of Arterial Highways.

At this time there is no preferred alternative identified in the Draft EIS/SEIR. The purpose of the document was to scientifically evaluate all the project alternatives equally and disclose the traffic benefits and potential environmental impacts of all of the alternatives.

Council Member Hernandez and TCA staff will Brief TCC members on the alternatives.

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